UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

PTOL-90A (Rev. 04/07)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>20 October 2003</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>*1-18*</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>*1-18*</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>20 October 2003</u> is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☒ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>see attachment</u>.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1.   Claims 1-18 are objected to because of the following informalities:

- Re claim 1: On line 10, the phrase "from the user" is suggested to be changed to
  -- from a user --.

    o On line 13, the phrase "the instruction" is suggested to be changed to --
       the print setting instruction --. Claims 2-4 are also objected because of
       their dependency on the objection claim 1.

- Re claim 3: On line 14, the phrase "the print settings" is suggested to be changed
  to -- the print setting instructions --.

- Re claim 4: On line 20, the phrase "the print settings" is suggested to be changed
  to -- the print setting instructions --.

- Re claim 5: page 31, line 11, the phrase "the instruction" is suggested to be
  changed to -- the print setting instruction --. Claims 6-8 are also objected
  because of their dependency on the objection claim 5.

- Re claim 7: On page 32, line 1, the phrase "the print settings" is suggested to be
  changed to -- the print setting instructions --.

- Re claim 8: On line 7, the phrase "the print settings" is suggested to be changed
  to -- the print setting instructions --.

- Re claim 9: On line 14, the phrase "from the user" is suggested to be changed to
  -- from a user --. Claims 10-12 are also objected because of their dependency
  on the objection claim 9.

- o On line 17, the phrase the phrase "the instruction" is suggested to be changed to -- the print setting instruction --.

- Re claim 13: On page 34, line 5, the phrase "from the user" is suggested to be changed to -- from a user --.

    - o On page 34, line 7, the phrase "the instruction" is suggested to be changed to -- the print setting instruction --.

- Re claim 14: On line 13, the phrase "from the user" is suggested to be changed to -- from a user --.

    - o On line 15, the phrase "the instruction" is suggested to be changed to -- the print setting instruction --.

- Re claim 15: On line 27 of page 35, the phrase "from the user" is suggested to be changed to -- from a user --.

    - o On line 2 of page 36, the phrase "the instruction" is suggested to be changed to -- the print setting instruction --.

- Re claim 16: On line 26, the phrase "from the user" is suggested to be changed to -- from a user --.

    - o On line 1 of page 37, the phrase "the instruction" is suggested to be changed to -- the print setting instruction --.

- Re claim 17: On line 7 of page 38, the phrase "from the user" is suggested to be changed to -- from a user --.

    - o On line 9 of page 38, the phrase "the instruction" is suggested to be changed to -- the print setting instruction --.

- Re claim 18: On line 21, the phrase "from the user" is suggested to be changed to -- from a user --.

  o On line 24, the phrase "the instruction" is suggested to be changed to -- the print setting instruction --.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

2.   35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

3.   Claims 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Re claim 16-18: the claims 16-18 are seeking patent protection to a seemingly patentable process or method. However, a program executing a method does not fall within one of the four statutory categories (i.e. process, machine, manufacture, composition of matter). A computer program is merely a set of instructions, which could include the claimed method, capable of being executed by a computer. It is recommended that the program be recited in conjunction with a physical structure, such as a computer memory or computer readable medium, which is needed to realize the computer program's functionality. An example would be "a computer readable medium encoded with a computer program for executing ...". See MPEP 2106.01.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4.   The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5.   Claims 9-12, 14, 15, 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Re claim 9: On the last line of claim 9, the phrase " outputting it to said printer" renders the claim indefinite. What does "it" refer to? Does "it" refer to print data or to print data corresponding to the print setting instruction? The above phrase will be given the broadest reasonable interpretation. Dependent claims 10-12 are also rejected because of the dependence on a rejected claim.

Re claim 14: On line 9, the phrase " outputting it to said printer" renders the claim indefinite. What does "it" refer to? Does "it" refer to print data or to print data corresponding to the print setting instruction? The above phrase will be given the broadest reasonable interpretation.

Re claim 15: On line 13, the phrase " outputting it to said printer" renders the claim indefinite. What does "it" refer to? Does "it" refer to print data or to print data corresponding to the print setting instruction? The above phrase will be given the broadest reasonable interpretation.

Re claim 17: On line 4, the phrase " outputting it to said printer" renders the claim

indefinite. What does "it" refer to? Does "it" refer to print data or to print data

corresponding to the print setting instruction? The above phrase will be given the

broadest reasonable interpretation.

Re claim 18: On line 8, the phrase " outputting it to said printer" renders the claim

indefinite. What does "it" refer to? Does "it" refer to print data or to print data

corresponding to the print setting instruction? The above phrase will be given the

broadest reasonable interpretation.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

7.   Claims 5-7, 14 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated

by Ohtsuka '526 (US Pat No 6198526).

Re claim 5: Ohtsuka '526 discloses a method and apparatus for recording order

information, comprising:

an operation panel which receives the print setting instruction from a user (i.e. in

the system, the digital camera has an operational panel, which allows the user to see

the picture that has been photographed and also allows the user to set order

information in regards to the necessity of printing and the quantity of prints desired by

the user. The quantity of prints can be considered as the print setting instruction. With

the function of setting the above parameters on the digital camera, it is clear that an

input is received on the operational panel on the camera to signal a necessity of printing

or quantity of printing to the digital camera. The digital camera is considered as an

external operating apparatus; see fig. 1; col. 1, lines 18-26 and col. 6, lines 1-56);

an operation panel controller for generating the interruption event corresponding

to the print setting instruction each time the instruction is made to said operation panel

(i.e. each time the digital camera (3) is used to perform a certain function, a signal is

sent in the CPU of the digital camera system that corresponds to a certain function.

This is clear in any computational device, that an interrupt, or signal of some kind, is

generated that corresponds with a certain function in the system of a computational

device. In the current example of the digital camera, when the function of setting a print

necessity is made, a print flag is set to 1 each time a print necessity is made in regards

to a picture desired to be printed. This is an example of generating an interruption

event when an instruction is made at the digital camera. In regards to the instruction of

the quantity of prints that is analogous to the print setting instruction, when the flag of

the necessity of printing is set to 1, setting values relating the quantity or size of prints,

are selected by a button on the digital camera each time this setting is desired. Once

the key is pressed to select a certain setting, this generates an interrupt in the system of

the camera signifying that the user has chosen a certain value or setting each time the

value or setting is made at the digital camera (3); see fig. 1; col. 1, lines 18-26 and col.

6, lines 1-56);

reading means for reading out image data from a connected storage medium (i.e.

once the print necessity and other settings are chosen, these settings are also stored as

a predetermined number. The digital camera (3) is connected to the personal computer

(4). The digital camera (3) generates an image file (9) that is input into the personal

computer (4). This is an example a reading means that reads out image data from a

storage medium since the information of the necessity of printing and other print

settings are stored before these printing options and settings are sent to the personal

computer (4) in an image file (9). Also, since the personal computer (4) also has an

operational panel that is able to manipulate the image file by configuring print settings

through inputs in the system, the personal computer can also be considered as an

external operation apparatus. The personal computer (4) can temporarily store the

image file (9) and order file (10) and transfer this information to the order receiving

apparatus (1). This is an example of having a means to transfer, or read out, image

data that is stored in a storage medium; see fig. 1; col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35- 66,

col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33); and

transmitting means for transmitting the interruption event and the read-out image

data (i.e. when the image file needs to be transmitted to the personal computer (4), this

information is transmitted to the personal computer (4) by the digital camera (3). This

may occur when the user wishes to perform an order form on the personal computer

(4). When the personal computer (4) is considered as the external operating apparatus,

the personal computer (4) can transmit the image file (9) along with the signal to instruct

printing, or an interruption event, in order for the printing apparatus (2) to perform

printing in the system; see fig. 1; col.6, lines 1-66, col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35-66,

col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33).

Re claim 6: The teachings of Ohtsuka '526 are disclosed above.

Ohtsuka '526 discloses an apparatus, wherein said operation panel controller includes a

start instructing unit for instructing a print start and generates the interruption event

corresponding to the print start instruction (i.e. when the user desires to instruct a print

to the printer, the user uses the function on the digital camera to set order information

(7) in regards to the necessity of printing and sends this information to the printer

through the personal computer (4). When the function changes a print flag to 1, this

generates a signal, analogous to an interruption event, to correspond to the print

instruction in order to instruct the printer to start printing once the order information (7) is

received by the order receiving apparatus (1) and then to the printer (2); see fig. 1;

col.6, lines 1-66, col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35- 66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines

17-33).

Re claim 7: The teachings of Ohtsuka '526 are disclosed above.

Ohtsuka '526 discloses an apparatus, wherein in response to the reception of the

interruption event corresponding to the print start instruction, said print control unit

outputs to said printer the print data to which the print settings received by a plurality of

interruption events received so far is reflected (i.e. when the printer receives the

instruction to print an image by the print necessity flag equaling 1, the printer also

recognizes the print settings relating to the print data in the image information (11) in the

image file (9). The plurality of print settings is a plurality of signals recognized by the

digital camera each time a different print setting is entered in the system. This is also

the case for the personal computer (4), if the personal computer is used as the external

operating apparatus that can have different print settings entered into the system

through the personal computer (4). The order receiving apparatus (1) outputs the print

data that reflects the print settings received by the order file (10) from the personal

computer (4) through transmission and are outputs this information to the printer (2);

see fig. 1; col.6, lines 1-66, col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35-66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and

col. 10, lines 17-33).

Re claim 14: Ohtsuka '526 discloses a method and apparatus for recording order

information, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving by an operation panel the print setting instruction from the user (i.e. in

the system, the digital camera has an operational panel, which allows the user to see

the picture that has been photographed and also allows the user to set order

information in regards to the necessity of printing and the quantity of prints desired by

the user. The quantity of prints can be considered as the print setting instruction. With

the function of setting the above parameters on the digital camera, it is clear that an

input is received on the operational panel on the camera to signal a necessity of printing

or quantity of printing to the digital camera. The digital camera is considered as an

external operating apparatus; see fig. 1; col. 1, lines 18-26 and col. 6, lines 1-56);

generating the interruption event corresponding to the print setting instruction

each time the instruction is made to said operation panel in said receiving step (i.e.

each time the digital camera (3) is used to perform a certain function, a signal is sent in

the CPU of the digital camera system that corresponds to a certain function. This is

clear in any computational device, that an interrupt, or signal of some kind, is generated

that corresponds with a certain function in the system of a computational device. In the

current example of the digital camera, when the function of setting a print necessity is

made, a print flag is set to 1 each time a print necessity is made in regards to a picture

desired to be printed. This is an example of generating an interruption event when an

instruction is made at the digital camera. In regards to the instruction of the quantity of

prints that is analogous to the print setting instruction, when the flag of the necessity of

printing is set to 1, setting values relating the quantity or size of prints, are selected by a

button on the digital camera each time this setting is desired. Once the key is pressed

to select a certain setting, this generates an interrupt in the system of the camera

signifying that the user has chosen a certain value or setting each time the value or

setting is made at the digital camera (3) and the value or setting is stored; see fig. 1; col.

1, lines 18-26 and col. 6, lines 1-56);

reading out image data from a connected storage medium (i.e. once the print

necessity and other settings are chosen, these settings are also stored as a

predetermined number. The digital camera (3) is connected to the personal computer

(4). The digital camera (3) generates an image file (9) that is input into the personal

computer (4). This is an example a reading means that reads out image data from a

storage medium since the information of the necessity of printing and other print

settings are stored before these printing options and settings are sent to the personal

computer (4) in an image file (9). Also, since the personal computer (4) also has an

operational panel that is able to manipulate the image file by configuring print settings

through inputs in the system, the personal computer can also be considered as an

external operation apparatus. The personal computer (4) can temporarily store the

image file (9) and order file (10) and transfer this information to the order receiving

apparatus (1). This is an example of having a means to transfer, or read out, image

data that is stored in a storage medium; see fig. 1; col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35- 66,

col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33); and

transmitting the interruption event and the read-out image data (i.e. when the

image file needs to be transmitted to the personal computer (4), this information is

transmitted to the personal computer (4) by the digital camera (3). This may occur

when the user wishes to perform an order form on the personal computer (4). When the

personal computer (4) is considered as the external operating apparatus, the personal

computer (4) can transmit the image file (9) along with the signal to instruct printing, or

an interruption event, in order for the printing apparatus (2) to perform printing in the

system; see fig. 1; col.6, lines 1-66, col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35-66, col. 9, lines 1,

2 and col. 10, lines 17-33).

Re claim 17: Ohtsuka '526 discloses a method and apparatus for recording order

information, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving by an operation panel the print setting instruction from the user (i.e. in

the system, the digital camera has an operational panel, which allows the user to see

the picture that has been photographed and also allows the user to set order

information in regards to the necessity of printing and the quantity of prints desired by

the user. The quantity of prints can be considered as the print setting instruction. With

the function of setting the above parameters on the digital camera, it is clear that an

input is received on the operational panel on the camera to signal a necessity of printing

or quantity of printing to the digital camera. The digital camera is considered as an

external operating apparatus; see fig. 1; col. 1, lines 18-26 and col. 6, lines 1-56);

generating the interruption event corresponding to the print setting instruction

each time the instruction is made to said operation panel in said receiving step (i.e.

each time the digital camera (3) is used to perform a certain function, a signal is sent in

the CPU of the digital camera system that corresponds to a certain function. This is

clear in any computational device, that an interrupt, or signal of some kind, is generated

that corresponds with a certain function in the system of a computational device. In the

current example of the digital camera, when the function of setting a print necessity is

made, a print flag is set to 1 each time a print necessity is made in regards to a picture

desired to be printed. This is an example of generating an interruption event when an

instruction is made at the digital camera. In regards to the instruction of the quantity of

prints that is analogous to the print setting instruction, when the flag of the necessity of

printing is set to 1, setting values relating the quantity or size of prints, are selected by a

button on the digital camera each time this setting is desired. Once the key is pressed

to select a certain setting, this generates an interrupt in the system of the camera

signifying that the user has chosen a certain value or setting each time the value or

setting is made at the digital camera (3) and the value or setting is stored; see fig. 1; col.

1, lines 18-26 and col. 6, lines 1-56);

reading out image data from a connected storage medium (i.e. once the print

necessity and other settings are chosen, these settings are also stored as a

predetermined number. The digital camera (3) is connected to the personal computer

(4). The digital camera (3) generates an image file (9) that is input into the personal

computer (4). This is an example a reading means that reads out image data from a

storage medium since the information of the necessity of printing and other print

settings are stored before these printing options and settings are sent to the personal

computer (4) in an image file (9). Also, since the personal computer (4) also has an

operational panel that is able to manipulate the image file by configuring print settings

through inputs in the system, the personal computer can also be considered as an

external operation apparatus. The personal computer (4) can temporarily store the

image file (9) and order file (10) and transfer this information to the order receiving

apparatus (1). This is an example of having a means to transfer, or read out, image

data that is stored in a storage medium; see fig. 1; col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35- 66,

col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33); and

transmitting the interruption event and the read-out image data (i.e. when the

image file needs to be transmitted to the personal computer (4), this information is

transmitted to the personal computer (4) by the digital camera (3). This may occur

when the user wishes to perform an order form on the personal computer (4). When the

personal computer (4) is considered as the external operating apparatus, the personal

computer (4) can transmit the image file (9) along with the signal to instruct printing, or

an interruption event, in order for the printing apparatus (2) to perform printing in the

system; see fig. 1; col.6, lines 1-66, col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35-66, col. 9, lines 1,

2 and col. 10, lines 17-33).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

9.   Claims 1-4, 8, 9-13, 15, 16 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Ohtsuka '526 in view of Nishio '346 (US Pub No 2002/0196346).

Re claim 1: Ohtsuka '526 discloses a method and apparatus for recording order

information,

wherein said external operating apparatus comprises

an operation panel which receives a print setting instruction from the user (i.e. in

the system, the digital camera has an operational panel, which allows the user to see

the picture that has been photographed and also allows the user to set order

information in regards to the necessity of printing and the quantity of prints desired by

the user. The quantity of prints can be considered as the print setting instruction. With

the function of setting the above parameters on the digital camera, it is clear that an

input is received on the operational panel on the camera to signal a necessity of printing

or quantity of printing to the digital camera. The digital camera is considered as an

external operating apparatus; see fig. 1; col. 1, lines 18-26 and col. 6, lines 1-56),

an operation panel controller for generating an interruption event corresponding

to the print setting instruction each time the instruction is made to said operation panel

(i.e. each time the digital camera (3) is used to perform a certain function, a signal is

sent in the CPU of the digital camera system that corresponds to a certain function.

This is clear in any computational device, that an interrupt, or signal of some kind, is

generated that corresponds with a certain function in the system of a computational

device. In the current example of the digital camera, when the function of setting a print

necessity is made, a print flag is set to 1 each time a print necessity is made in regards

to a picture desired to be printed. This is an example of generating an interruption

event when an instruction is made at the digital camera. In regards to the instruction of

the quantity of prints that is analogous to the print setting instruction, when the flag of

the necessity of printing is set to 1, setting values relating the quantity or size of prints,

are selected by a button on the digital camera each time this setting is desired. Once

the key is pressed to select a certain setting, this generates an interrupt in the system of

the camera signifying that the user has chosen a certain value or setting each time the

value or setting is made at the digital camera (3) and the value or setting is stored; see

fig. 1; col. 1, lines 18-26 and col. 6, lines 1-56), and

reading means for reading out image data from a storage medium (i.e. once the

print necessity and other settings are chosen, these settings are also stored as a

predetermined number. The digital camera (3) is connected to the personal computer

(4). The digital camera (3) generates an image file (9) that is input into the personal

computer (4). This is an example a reading means that reads out image data from a

storage medium since the information of the necessity of printing and other print

settings are stored before these printing options and settings are sent to the personal

computer (4) in an image file (9). Also, since the personal computer (4) also has an

operational panel that is able to manipulate the image file by configuring print settings

through inputs in the system, the personal computer can also be considered as an

external operation apparatus. The personal computer (4) can temporarily store the

image file (9) and order file (10) and transfer this information to the order receiving

apparatus (1). This is an example of having a means to transfer, or read out, image

data that is stored in a storage medium; see fig. 1; col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35-66,

col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33),

wherein said host computer comprises

a receiving unit for receiving the image data read out from said storage medium

(i.e. in the system both the personal computer (4) and the order receiving apparatus (1)

can be considered as a host computer. The personal computer (4) is able to receive

image data that is transmitted from the digital camera. The input from the digital

camera relates to information that was stored as a predetermined value before the

information was transmitted to the personal computer (4). Also, in regards to the order

receiving apparatus, the order receiving apparatus (1) receives image data read out

from a storage medium (5) that stores the image data, order information and the print

necessity flag that signifies if printing is needed. In the method of using the order

receiving apparatus (1), instead of using the storage medium (5), the image data can be

transmitted from a storage medium that temporarily stores the image data; see fig. 1;

col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35- 66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33),

a control unit for receiving the interruption event from said external operating

apparatus (i.e. the order receiving apparatus (1) receives a signal that signifies that the

image file (9) and the order file (10) should have some function performed on the files.

The generation of the image and order files and the sending of these files to the order

receiving apparatus is analogous to a control unit receiving an interruption event from

an external operating apparatus; see fig. 1; col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35- 66, col. 9,

lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33) and which said print setting instruction is reflected to

the image data received by said receiving unit (i.e. when the order receiving unit (1)

receives the image and order files (9 and 10), the print settings, such as the print size or

quantities or trimming of the image is carried out on the image data. The image

processing is specified by the tag information (8) and is reflected on the image data

received by the order receiving apparatus (1), considered as the host computer; see fig.

1; col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35- 66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33), and

wherein a print control unit for generating print data corresponding to the print

setting instruction (i.e. the order information instructs the printer to generate print data

corresponding to the order information (12) specified in the order file (10). Although a

print control unit is not specified, the order receiving apparatus (1) is clearly the printer

control unit since the instructions for the printer has to be recognized and processed by

the order receiving apparatus (1) and the printer is controlled by the apparatus (1) in

order to output the desired document of the user; see fig. 1; col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8,

lines 35- 66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33), and .

said printer prints the print data outputted from said host computer (i.e. the image

and order files (9 and 10) are both used to reflect what the user desires to have printed

by the printer (2) and this information has been outputted by the order receiving

apparatus (1). Since the personal computer (4) sends information to the order receiving

apparatus to be printed, this is considered as the host computer that outputted print

data to the printer (2); see fig. 1; col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35- 66, col. 9, lines 1, 2

and col. 10, lines 17-33).

However, Ohtsuka '526 fails to teach a display control unit and effecting a

preview display.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Nishio '346. Nishio '346

discloses a display control unit (i.e. in Nishio '346, the CPU (150) performs image

processing on an image, based on image processing control information and outputs

information to a monitor. The CPU (150) controls whether the monitor (14) will display

the processed information since it controls the transmission on the image information to

the monitor (14); see paragraphs [0004], [0035] and [0058]-[0060]) and effecting a

preview display (i.e. the CPU (150) transmits, or outputs, processed image data to a

monitor (14) in order to be shown to the user, or preview displayed. In the background

of the invention, in order to confirm the result of image processing, the image is preview

displayed, or simply displayed on a CRT display to the user. With the incorporation of

the CPU (150) that controls the output of the image to the monitor (14) and the display

of an image to confirm the result of image processing of Nishio '346 combined with the

features of Ohtsuka '526, the above claim feature is performed; see figs. 1, 2 and 6; see

paragraphs [0004], [0035] and [0058]-[0060]).

Therefore, in view of Nishio '346, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary

skill at the time the invention was made to have a display control unit and effecting a

preview display in order to confirm the result of image processing by displaying the

image processed (as stated in Nishio '346 paragraph [0004).

Re claim 2: The teachings of Ohtsuka '526 in view of Nishio '346 are disclosed above.

Ohtsuka '526 discloses a system, wherein said operation panel controller includes a

start instructing unit for instructing a print start and generates the interruption event

according to the print start instruction (i.e. when the user desires to instruct a print to the

printer, the user uses the function on the digital camera to set order information (7) in

regards to the necessity of printing and sends this information to the printer through the

personal computer (4). When the function changes a print flag to 1, this generates a

signal, analogous to an interruption event, to correspond to the print instruction in order

to instruct the printer to start printing once the order information (7) is received by the

order receiving apparatus (1) and then to the printer (2); see fig. 1; col.6, lines 1-66, col.

7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35- 66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33).

Re claim 3: The teachings of Ohtsuka '526 in view of Nishio '346 are disclosed above.

Ohtsuka '526 discloses a system, wherein in response to the reception of the

interruption event corresponding to said print start instruction, said print control unit

outputs to said printer the print data to which the print settings received by a plurality of

interruption events received so far are reflected to said printer (i.e. when the printer

receives the instruction to print an image by the print necessity flag equaling 1, the

printer also recognizes the print settings relating to the print data in the image

information (11) in the image file (9). The plurality of print settings is a plurality of

signals recognized by the digital camera each time a different print setting is entered in

the system. This is also the case for the personal computer (4), if the personal

computer is used as the external operating apparatus that can have different print

settings entered into the system through the personal computer (4). The order receiving

apparatus (1) outputs the print data that reflects the print settings received by the order

file (10) from the personal computer (4) through transmission and are outputs this

information to the printer (2); see fig. 1; col.6, lines 1-66, col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines

35-66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33).

Re claim 4: The teachings of Ohtsuka '526 in view of Nishio '346 are disclosed above.

Ohtsuka '526 discloses a system, wherein the print setting corresponding to the

interruption event which is generated every operation to said operation panel (i.e. the

print setting in Ohtsuka '526 corresponds to a signal, or an interruption event, that is

generated every time an operation of choosing a specific print setting is performed on

the digital camera using the function. With the selected key button on the digital camera

and a function used to select different print settings, it is clear that an operation panel is

on the digital camera, since the camera can select print settings from a plurality of

selections; see fig. 1; col.6, lines 1-66, col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35-66, col. 9, lines

1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33).

However, Ohtsuka '526 fails to teach host computer updates said preview display

in accordance with the print setting.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Nishio '346. Nishio '346

discloses the host computer updates said preview display in accordance with the print

setting (i.e. the CPU (150) searches for an image processing control tag and acquires

image processing control. Once image processing is performed on the basis on the

image processing control information, this information is output to a monitor (14) in

order to be displayed in the most updated and processed form. This is an example of a

CPU (150), analogous to a host computer, which updates a preview display, or a

monitor, in accordance to the print settings set in the image processing control tag. This

may occur to confirm the results of image processing that was performed on the image

data. The feature of having a computer update a preview display, or monitor, in

accordance with the print settings, or image processing desired by the user of Nishio

'346 incorporated in the features of the device of Ohtsuka '526, the above claim feature

is performed; see figs. 1, 2 and 6; see paragraphs [0004], [0035] and [0058]-[0060]).

Therefore, in view of Nishio '346, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary

skill at the time the invention was made to have a host computer update the preview

display in accordance with the print setting in order to confirm the result of image

processing by displaying the image processed (as stated in Nishio '346 paragraph

[0004).

Re claim 8: The teachings of Ohtsuka '526 are disclosed above.

Ohtsuka '526 discloses an apparatus, wherein the print setting corresponding to the

interruption event which is generated every operation to the operation panel (i.e. the

print setting in Ohtsuka '526 corresponds to a signal, or an interruption event, that is

generated every time an operation of choosing a specific print setting is performed on

the digital camera using the function. With the selected key button on the digital camera

and a function used to select different print settings, it is clear that an operation panel is

on the digital camera, since the camera can select print settings from a plurality of

selections; see fig. 1; col.6, lines 1-66, col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35-66, col. 9, lines

1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33).

However, Ohtsuka '526 fails to teach host computer updates said preview display

in accordance with the print setting.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Nishio '346. Nishio '346

discloses the host computer updates said preview display in accordance with the print

setting (i.e. the CPU (150) searches for an image processing control tag and acquires

image processing control. Once image processing is performed on the basis on the

image processing control information, this information is output to a monitor (14) in

order to be displayed in the most updated and processed form. This is an example of a

CPU (150), analogous to a host computer, which updates a preview display, or a

monitor, in accordance to the print settings set in the image processing control tag. This

may occur to confirm the results of image processing that was performed on the image

data. The feature of having a computer update a preview display, or monitor, in

accordance with the print settings, or image processing desired by the user of Nishio

'346 incorporated in the features of the device of Ohtsuka '526, the above claim feature

is performed; see figs. 1, 2 and 6; see paragraphs [0004], [0035] and [0058]-[0060]).

Therefore, in view of Nishio '346, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary

skill at the time the invention was made to have a host computer update the preview

display in accordance with the print setting in order to confirm the result of image

processing by displaying the image processed (as stated in Nishio '346 paragraph

[0004).

Re claim 9: Ohtsuka '526 discloses a method and apparatus for recording order

information, comprising:

a receiving unit for receiving the image data and the interruption event (i.e. the

order receiving unit (1), which receives image data, also receives a signal of an event to

represent the printing of data and either to print or not to print the print data that is input

into the system. The flag or signal indicating to print is analogous to an interruption

event that causes an a specific action to occur in the system; see fig. 1; col.6, lines 1-

66, col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35-66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33);

a control unit for said print setting instruction is reflected to the image data

received by said receiving unit (i.e. when the order receiving unit (1) receives the image

and order files (9 and 10), the print settings, such as the print size or quantities or

trimming of the image is carried out on the image data. The image processing is

specified by the tag information (8) and is reflected on the image data received by the

order receiving apparatus (1), considered as the host computer; see fig. 1; col. 7, lines

1-66, col. 8, lines 35- 66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33); and

a print control unit for generating print data corresponding to the print setting

instruction (i.e. the order information instructs the printer to generate print data

corresponding to the order information (12) specified in the order file (10). Although a

print control unit is not specified, the order receiving apparatus (1) is clearly the printer

control unit since the instructions for the printer has to be recognized and processed by

the order receiving apparatus (1) and the printer is controlled by the apparatus (1) in

order to output the desired document of the user; see fig. 1; col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8,

lines 35- 66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33) and

outputting it to said printer (i.e. the image and order files (9 and 10) are both used

to reflect what the user desires to have printed by the printer (2) and this information

has been outputted by the order receiving apparatus (1). Since the personal computer

(4) sends information to the order receiving apparatus to be printed, this is considered

as the host computer that outputted print data to the printer (2); see fig. 1; col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35- 66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33).

However, Ohtsuka '526 fails to teach a display control unit for effecting a preview display.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Nishio '346. Nishio '346 discloses a display control unit (i.e. in Nishio '346, the CPU (150) performs image processing on an image, based on image processing control information and outputs information to a monitor. The CPU (150) controls whether the monitor (14) will display the processed information since it controls the transmission on the image information to the monitor (14); see paragraphs [0004], [0035] and [0058]-[0060]) for effecting a preview display (i.e. the CPU (150) transmits, or outputs, processed image data to a monitor (14) in order to be shown to the user, or preview displayed. In the background of the invention, in order to confirm the result of image processing, the image is preview displayed, or simply displayed on a CRT display to the user. With the incorporation of the CPU (150) that controls the output of the image to the monitor (14) and the display of an image to confirm the result of image processing of Nishio '346 combined with the features of Ohtsuka '526, the above claim feature is performed; see figs. 1, 2 and 6; see paragraphs [0004], [0035] and [0058]-[0060]).

Therefore, in view of Nishio '346, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have a display control unit for effecting a preview display in order to confirm the result of image processing by displaying the image processed (as stated in Nishio '346 paragraph [0004).

Re claim 10: The teachings of Ohtsuka '526 in view of Nishio '346 are disclosed above.

Ohtsuka '526 discloses an apparatus, wherein said operation panel controller includes a

start instructing unit for instructing a print start and generates the interruption event

corresponding to the print start instruction (i.e. when the user desires to instruct a print

to the printer, the user uses the function on the digital camera to set order information

(7) in regards to the necessity of printing and sends this information to the printer

through the personal computer (4). When the function changes a print flag to 1, this

generates a signal, analogous to an interruption event, to correspond to the print

instruction in order to instruct the printer to start printing once the order information (7) is

received by the order receiving apparatus (1) and then to the printer (2); see fig. 1;

col.6, lines 1-66, col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35- 66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines

17-33).

Re claim 11: The teachings of Ohtsuka '526 in view of Nishio '346 are disclosed above.

Ohtsuka '526 discloses an apparatus, wherein in response to the reception of the

interruption event corresponding to the print start instruction, said print control unit

outputs to said printer the print data to which the print settings received by a plurality of

interruption events received so far is reflected (i.e. when the printer receives the

instruction to print an image by the print necessity flag equaling 1, the printer also

recognizes the print settings relating to the print data in the image information (11) in the

image file (9). The plurality of print settings is a plurality of signals recognized by the

digital camera each time a different print setting is entered in the system. This is also

the case for the personal computer (4), if the personal computer is used as the external

operating apparatus that can have different print settings entered into the system

through the personal computer (4). The order receiving apparatus (1) outputs the print

data that reflects the print settings received by the order file (10) from the personal

computer (4) through transmission and are outputs this information to the printer (2);

see fig. 1; col.6, lines 1-66, col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35-66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and

col. 10, lines 17-33).

Re claim 12: The teachings of Ohtsuka '526 in view of Nishio '346 are disclosed above.

Ohtsuka '526 discloses an apparatus, wherein the print setting corresponding to the

interruption event which is generated every operation to said operation panel (i.e. the

print setting in Ohtsuka '526 corresponds to a signal, or an interruption event, that is

generated every time an operation of choosing a specific print setting is performed on

the digital camera using the function. With the selected key button on the digital camera

and a function used to select different print settings, it is clear that an operation panel is

on the digital camera, since the camera can select print settings from a plurality of

selections; see fig. 1; col.6, lines 1-66, col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35-66, col. 9, lines

1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33).

However, Ohtsuka '526 fails to teach said print control unit updates the preview

display in accordance with the print setting.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Nishio '346. Nishio '346

discloses said print control unit updates the preview display in accordance with the print

setting (i.e. the CPU (150) searches for an image processing control tag and acquires

image processing control. Once image processing is performed on the basis on the

image processing control information, this information is output to a monitor (14) in

order to be displayed in the most updated and processed form. This is an example of a

CPU (150), analogous to a host computer, which updates a preview display, or a

monitor, in accordance to the print settings set in the image processing control tag. This

may occur to confirm the results of image processing that was performed on the image

data. Also, the same CPU (150) controls the printer in printing the image that has just

undergone image processing. The feature of having a computer that controls a printer

update a preview display, or monitor, in accordance with the print settings, or image

processing desired by the user of Nishio '346 incorporated in the features of the device

of Ohtsuka '526, the above claim feature is performed; see figs. 1, 2 and 6; see

paragraphs [0004], [0035] and [0058]-[0060]).

Therefore, in view of Nishio '346, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary

skill at the time the invention was made to have a print control unit update the preview

display in accordance with the print setting in order to confirm the result of image

processing by displaying the image processed (as stated in Nishio '346 paragraph

[0004).

Re claim 13: Ohtsuka '526 discloses a method and apparatus for recording order

information, comprising the steps of

receiving by an operation panel a print setting instruction from the user (i.e. in the

system, the digital camera has an operational panel, which allows the user to see the

picture that has been photographed and also allows the user to set order information in

regards to the necessity of printing and the quantity of prints desired by the user. The

quantity of prints can be considered as the print setting instruction. With the function of

setting the above parameters on the digital camera, it is clear that an input is received

on the operational panel on the camera to signal a necessity of printing or quantity of

printing to the digital camera. The digital camera is considered as an external operating

apparatus; see fig. 1; col. 1, lines 18-26 and col. 6, lines 1-56),

generating an interruption event corresponding to the print setting instruction

each time the instruction is made to said operation panel (i.e. each time the digital

camera (3) is used to perform a certain function, a signal is sent in the CPU of the digital

camera system that corresponds to a certain function. This is clear in any

computational device, that an interrupt, or signal of some kind, is generated that

corresponds with a certain function in the system of a computational device. In the

current example of the digital camera, when the function of setting a print necessity is

made, a print flag is set to 1 each time a print necessity is made in regards to a picture

desired to be printed. This is an example of generating an interruption event when an

instruction is made at the digital camera. In regards to the instruction of the quantity of

prints that is analogous to the print setting instruction, when the flag of the necessity of

printing is set to 1, setting values relating the quantity or size of prints, are selected by a

button on the digital camera each time this setting is desired. Once the key is pressed

to select a certain setting, this generates an interrupt in the system of the camera

signifying that the user has chosen a certain value or setting each time the value or

setting is made at the digital camera (3) and the value or setting is stored; see fig. 1; col.

1, lines 18-26 and col. 6, lines 1-56), and

reading out image data from a storage medium (i.e. once the print necessity and

other settings are chosen, these settings are also stored as a predetermined number.

The digital camera (3) is connected to the personal computer (4). The digital camera

(3) generates an image file (9) that is input into the personal computer (4). This is an

example a reading means that reads out image data from a storage medium since the

information of the necessity of printing and other print settings are stored before these

printing options and settings are sent to the personal computer (4) in an image file (9).

Also, since the personal computer (4) also has an operational panel that is able to

manipulate the image file by configuring print settings through inputs in the system, the

personal computer can also be considered as an external operation apparatus. The

personal computer (4) can temporarily store the image file (9) and order file (10) and

transfer this information to the order receiving apparatus (1). This is an example of

having a means to transfer, or read out, image data that is stored in a storage medium;

see fig. 1; col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35- 66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-

33),

wherein said method further includes a control method for said host computer,

comprising the steps of

receiving the image data read out from said storage medium (i.e. in the system

both the personal computer (4) and the order receiving apparatus (1) can be considered

as a host computer. The personal computer (4) is able to receive image data that is

transmitted from the digital camera. The input from the digital camera relates to

information that was stored as a predetermined value before the information was

transmitted to the personal computer (4). Also, in regards to the order receiving

apparatus, the order receiving apparatus (1) receives image data read out from a

storage medium (5) that stores the image data, order information and the print necessity

flag that signifies if printing is needed. In the method of using the order receiving

apparatus (1), instead of using the storage medium (5), the image data can be

transmitted from a storage medium that temporarily stores the image data; see fig. 1;

col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35- 66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33),

receiving the interruption event from said external operating apparatus (i.e. the

order receiving apparatus (1) receives a signal that signifies that the image file (9) and

the order file (10) should have some function performed on the files. The generation of

the image and order files and the sending of these files to the order receiving apparatus

is analogous to a control unit receiving an interruption event from an external operating

apparatus; see fig. 1; col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35- 66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10,

lines 17-33) and said print setting instruction is reflected to the image data received in

said image data receiving step (i.e. when the order receiving unit (1) receives the image

and order files (9 and 10), the print settings, such as the print size or quantities or trimming of the image is carried out on the image data. The image processing is specified by the tag information (8) and is reflected on the image data received by the order receiving apparatus (1), considered as the host computer; see fig. 1; col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35- 66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33), and

generating print data corresponding to the print setting instruction (i.e. the order information instructs the printer to generate print data corresponding to the order information (12) specified in the order file (10). Although a print control unit is not specified, the order receiving apparatus (1) is clearly the printer control unit since the instructions for the printer has to be recognized and processed by the order receiving apparatus (1) and the printer is controlled by the apparatus (1) in order to output the desired document of the user; see fig. 1; col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35- 66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33), and

wherein said method further includes a control method for said printer, comprising the steps of

said printer prints printing data outputted from said host computer (i.e. the image and order files (9 and 10) are both used to reflect what the user desires to have printed by the printer (2) and this information has been outputted by the order receiving apparatus (1). Since the personal computer (4) sends information to the order receiving apparatus to be printed, this is considered as the host computer that outputted print data to the printer (2); see fig. 1; col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35- 66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33).

However, Ohtsuka '526 fails to teach effecting a preview display.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Nishio '346. Nishio '346 discloses effecting a preview display (i.e. the CPU (150) transmits, or outputs, processed image data to a monitor (14) in order to be shown to the user, or preview displayed. In the background of the invention, in order to confirm the result of image processing, the image is preview displayed, or simply displayed on a CRT display to the user. With the incorporation of the CPU (150) that controls the output of the image to the monitor (14) and the display of an image to confirm the result of image processing of Nishio '346 combined with the features of Ohtsuka '526, the above claim feature is performed; see figs. 1, 2 and 6; see paragraphs [0004], [0035] and [0058]-[0060]).

Therefore, in view of Nishio '346, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to effect a preview display in order to confirm the result of image processing by displaying the image processed (as stated in Nishio '346 paragraph [0004).

Re claim 15: Ohtsuka '526 discloses a method and apparatus for recording order information, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving the image data and the interruption event (i.e. the order receiving unit (1), which receives image data, also receives a signal of an event to represent the printing of data and either to print or not to print the print data that is input into the system. The flag or signal indicating to print is analogous to an interruption event that

causes an a specific action to occur in the system; see fig. 1; col.6, lines 1-66, col. 7,

lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35-66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33);

said print setting instruction is reflected to the image data received in said

receiving step (i.e. when the order receiving unit (1) receives the image and order files

(9 and 10), the print settings, such as the print size or quantities or trimming of the

image is carried out on the image data. The image processing is specified by the tag

information (8) and is reflected on the image data received by the order receiving

apparatus (1), considered as the host computer; see fig. 1; col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8,

lines 35- 66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33); and

generating print data corresponding to the print setting instruction (i.e. the order

information instructs the printer to generate print data corresponding to the order

information (12) specified in the order file (10). Although a print control unit is not

specified, the order receiving apparatus (1) is clearly the printer control unit since the

instructions for the printer has to be recognized and processed by the order receiving

apparatus (1) and the printer is controlled by the apparatus (1) in order to output the

desired document of the user. The print setting instruction is analogous to the order file

(10) because the order file specifies how many copies are to be produced or the size of

paper used in printing the print data; see fig. 1; col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35- 66, col.

9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33) and

outputting it to said printer (i.e. the image and order files (9 and 10) are both used

to reflect what the user desires to have printed by the printer (2) and this information

has been outputted by the order receiving apparatus (1). Since the personal computer

(4) sends information to the order receiving apparatus to be printed, this is considered

as the host computer that outputted print data to the printer (2); see fig. 1; col. 7, lines 1-

66, col. 8, lines 35- 66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33).

However, Ohtsuka '526 fails to teach effecting a preview display.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Nishio '346. Nishio '346

discloses effecting a preview display (i.e. the CPU (150) transmits, or outputs,

processed image data to a monitor (14) in order to be shown to the user, or preview

displayed. In the background of the invention, in order to confirm the result of image

processing, the image is preview displayed, or simply displayed on a CRT display to the

user. With the incorporation of the CPU (150) that controls the output of the image to

the monitor (14) and the display of an image to confirm the result of image processing of

Nishio '346 combined with the features of Ohtsuka '526, the above claim feature is

performed; see figs. 1, 2 and 6; see paragraphs [0004], [0035] and [0058]-[0060]).

Therefore, in view of Nishio '346, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary

skill at the time the invention was made to effect a preview display in order to confirm

the result of image processing by displaying the image processed (as stated in Nishio

'346 paragraph [0004).

Re claim 16: Ohtsuka '526 discloses a method and apparatus for recording order

information, comprising the steps of

receiving by an operation panel a print setting instruction from the user (i.e. in the

system, the digital camera has an operational panel, which allows the user to see the

picture that has been photographed and also allows the user to set order information in

regards to the necessity of printing and the quantity of prints desired by the user. The

quantity of prints can be considered as the print setting instruction. With the function of

setting the above parameters on the digital camera, it is clear that an input is received

on the operational panel on the camera to signal a necessity of printing or quantity of

printing to the digital camera. The digital camera is considered as an external operating

apparatus; see fig. 1; col. 1, lines 18-26 and col. 6, lines 1-56),

generating an interruption event corresponding to the print setting instruction

each time the instruction is made to said operation panel (i.e. each time the digital

camera (3) is used to perform a certain function, a signal is sent in the CPU of the digital

camera system that corresponds to a certain function. This is clear in any

computational device, that an interrupt, or signal of some kind, is generated that

corresponds with a certain function in the system of a computational device. In the

current example of the digital camera, when the function of setting a print necessity is

made, a print flag is set to 1 each time a print necessity is made in regards to a picture

desired to be printed. This is an example of generating an interruption event when an

instruction is made at the digital camera. In regards to the instruction of the quantity of

prints that is analogous to the print setting instruction, when the flag of the necessity of

printing is set to 1, setting values relating the quantity or size of prints, are selected by a

button on the digital camera each time this setting is desired. Once the key is pressed

to select a certain setting, this generates an interrupt in the system of the camera

signifying that the user has chosen a certain value or setting each time the value or

setting is made at the digital camera (3) and the value or setting is stored; see fig. 1; col.

1, lines 18-26 and col. 6, lines 1-56), and

reading out image data from a storage medium (i.e. once the print necessity and

other settings are chosen, these settings are also stored as a predetermined number.

The digital camera (3) is connected to the personal computer (4). The digital camera

(3) generates an image file (9) that is input into the personal computer (4). This is an

example a reading means that reads out image data from a storage medium since the

information of the necessity of printing and other print settings are stored before these

printing options and settings are sent to the personal computer (4) in an image file (9).

Also, since the personal computer (4) also has an operational panel that is able to

manipulate the image file by configuring print settings through inputs in the system, the

personal computer can also be considered as an external operation apparatus. The

personal computer (4) can temporarily store the image file (9) and order file (10) and

transfer this information to the order receiving apparatus (1). This is an example of

having a means to transfer, or read out, image data that is stored in a storage medium;

see fig. 1; col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35- 66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-

33),

wherein said method further include a control method for said host computer,

comprising the steps of

receiving the image data read out from said storage medium (i.e. in the system

both the personal computer (4) and the order receiving apparatus (1) can be considered

as a host computer. The personal computer (4) is able to receive image data that is

transmitted from the digital camera. The input from the digital camera relates to

information that was stored as a predetermined value before the information was

transmitted to the personal computer (4). Also, in regards to the order receiving

apparatus, the order receiving apparatus (1) receives image data read out from a

storage medium (5) that stores the image data, order information and the print necessity

flag that signifies if printing is needed. In the method of using the order receiving

apparatus (1), instead of using the storage medium (5), the image data can be

transmitted from a storage medium that temporarily stores the image data; see fig. 1;

col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35- 66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33),

receiving the interruption event from said external operating apparatus (i.e. the

order receiving apparatus (1) receives a signal that signifies that the image file (9) and

the order file (10) should have some function performed on the files. The generation of

the image and order files and the sending of these files to the order receiving apparatus

is analogous to a control unit receiving an interruption event from an external operating

apparatus; see fig. 1; col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35- 66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10,

lines 17-33) and said print setting instruction is reflected to the image data received in

said image data receiving step (i.e. when the order receiving unit (1) receives the image

and order files (9 and 10), the print settings, such as the print size or quantities or

trimming of the image is carried out on the image data. The image processing is

specified by the tag information (8) and is reflected on the image data received by the

order receiving apparatus (1), considered as the host computer; see fig. 1; col. 7, lines

1-66, col. 8, lines 35- 66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33) and said print setting

instruction is reflected to the image data received in said image data receiving step, and

generating print data corresponding to the print setting instruction (i.e. the order

information instructs the printer to generate print data corresponding to the order

information (12) specified in the order file (10). Although a print control unit is not

specified, the order receiving apparatus (1) is clearly the printer control unit since the

instructions for the printer has to be recognized and processed by the order receiving

apparatus (1) and the printer is controlled by the apparatus (1) in order to output the

desired document of the user. The print setting instruction is analogous to the order file

(10) because the order file specifies how many copies are to be produced or the size of

paper used in printing the print data; see fig. 1; col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35- 66, col.

9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33), and

wherein said method further includes a control method for said printer,

comprising the steps of

printing the print data outputted from said host computer (i.e. the image and

order files (9 and 10) are both used to reflect what the user desires to have printed by

the printer (2) and this information has been outputted by the order receiving apparatus

(1). Since the personal computer (4) sends information to the order receiving apparatus

to be printed, this is considered as the host computer that outputted print data to the

printer (2); see fig. 1; col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35- 66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10,

lines 17-33).

However, Ohtsuka '526 fails to teach effecting a preview display.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Nishio '346. Nishio '346

discloses effecting a preview display (i.e. the CPU (150) transmits, or outputs,

processed image data to a monitor (14) in order to be shown to the user, or preview

displayed. In the background of the invention, in order to confirm the result of image

processing, the image is preview displayed, or simply displayed on a CRT display to the

user. With the incorporation of the CPU (150) that controls the output of the image to

the monitor (14) and the display of an image to confirm the result of image processing of

Nishio '346 combined with the features of Ohtsuka '526, the above claim feature is

performed; see figs. 1, 2 and 6; see paragraphs [0004], [0035] and [0058]-[0060]).

Therefore, in view of Nishio '346, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary

skill at the time the invention was made to effect a preview display in order to confirm

the result of image processing by displaying the image processed (as stated in Nishio

'346 paragraph [0004).

Re claim 18: Ohtsuka '526 discloses a method and apparatus for recording order

information, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving the image data and the interruption event (i.e. the order receiving unit

(1), which receives image data, also receives a signal of an event to represent the

printing of data and either to print or not to print the print data that is input into the

system. The flag or signal indicating to print is analogous to an interruption event that

causes an a specific action to occur in the system; see fig. 1; col.6, lines 1-66, col. 7,

lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35-66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33);

said print setting instruction is reflected to the image data received in said

receiving step (i.e. when the order receiving unit (1) receives the image and order files

(9 and 10), the print settings, such as the print size or quantities or trimming of the

image is carried out on the image data. The image processing is specified by the tag

information (8) and is reflected on the image data received by the order receiving

apparatus (1), considered as the host computer; see fig. 1; col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8,

lines 35- 66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33); and

generating print data corresponding to the print setting instruction (i.e. the order

information instructs the printer to generate print data corresponding to the order

information (12) specified in the order file (10). Although a print control unit is not

specified, the order receiving apparatus (1) is clearly the printer control unit since the

instructions for the printer has to be recognized and processed by the order receiving

apparatus (1) and the printer is controlled by the apparatus (1) in order to output the

desired document of the user. The print setting instruction is analogous to the order file

(10) because the order file specifies how many copies are to be produced or the size of

paper used in printing the print data; see fig. 1; col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35- 66, col.

9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33) and

outputting it to said printer (i.e. the image and order files (9 and 10) are both used

to reflect what the user desires to have printed by the printer (2) and this information

has been outputted by the order receiving apparatus (1). Since the personal computer

(4) sends information to the order receiving apparatus to be printed, this is considered

as the host computer that outputted print data to the printer (2); see fig. 1; col. 7, lines 1-66, col. 8, lines 35- 66, col. 9, lines 1, 2 and col. 10, lines 17-33).

However, Ohtsuka '526 fails to teach effecting a preview display.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Nishio '346. Nishio '346 discloses effecting a preview display (i.e. the CPU (150) transmits, or outputs, processed image data to a monitor (14) in order to be shown to the user, or preview displayed. In the background of the invention, in order to confirm the result of image processing, the image is preview displayed, or simply displayed on a CRT display to the user. With the incorporation of the CPU (150) that controls the output of the image to the monitor (14) and the display of an image to confirm the result of image processing of Nishio '346 combined with the features of Ohtsuka '526, the above claim feature is performed; see figs. 1, 2 and 6; see paragraphs [0004], [0035] and [0058]-[0060]).

Therefore, in view of Nishio '346, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to effect a preview display in order to confirm the result of image processing by displaying the image processed (as stated in Nishio '346 paragraph [0004).

Conclusion

10.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to

applicant's disclosure.

11.   Nakami '127 (US Pub No 2003/0035127) discloses a system in which a digital

still camera is used as an input device foe generating image data and adding image

processing to the image data. The image data, with the processing instructions, are

now transmitted to the personal computer for executing the image file generating

process, in which the image data will be displayed on the personal computer. Next, the

image data is passed to the printer in the system for output after the image processing

is performed on the input image data.

12.   Takahashi '882 (US Pat No 6867882) discloses a system in which the image

input apparatus can change the display properties of the images captured and send

these properties to the host information processing apparatus to be processed before

the image is output to the printer apparatus to be printed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Chad Dickerson whose telephone number is (571)-270-

1351. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. thru Thur. 9:00-6:30 Fri. 9:00-

5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Aung Moe can be reached on (571)- 272-7314. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

CD/ *CD*
Chad Dickerson
July 13, 2007

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